

Remarks

Claims 48 – 62, 65 and 66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. In order to expedite the prosecution of this application, Applicants have deleted the language that the Examiner stated was unsupported in the specification. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 48 – 62, 65 and 66 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph.

Claims 48, 50, 51, 53 – 58, 60 – 62, 65 and 66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by, or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,235,982, issued to Maslanka. Claims 48 and 66 have been amended to include substantially the limitations of claim 59. Claim 59 has been cancelled. Maslanka does not disclose, teach or suggest a copolymer powder having a non-cationic unsaturated monomer which is an anionic monomer. Further, in a previous Office action the Examiner indicated that claim 59 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 48, 50, 51, 53 – 58, 60 – 62, 65 and 66 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Maslanka.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. If there are any issues that the Examiner wishes to discuss, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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